



Atty. Dkt. No. 042098-0103

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Bruno BERGE

Title: DROP CENTERING DEVICE

Appl. No.: 09/937,508

Filing Date: 05/22/2002

Examiner: Darryl J. Collins

Art Unit: 2873

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

03/24/2006 HALI11 00000136 09937508  
01 FC:1806 180.00 DP

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

All of the U.S. patent documents are in English. The JP documents and the French PCT document were cited on the face of the Tsuboi U.S. Patent No. 6,702,483 (the patent with which applicant is suggesting an interference), and an English language abstract of each one is enclosed.

**TIMING OF THIS SUBMISSION**

This IDS is being filed after a first action on the merits but before a final action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution. Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c), this IDS is accompanied by the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

Applicant respectfully requests that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 23 March 2006

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Date Submitted: March 23, 2006

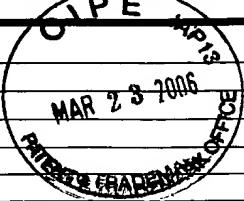
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Sheet 1 of 1

## Complete if Known

Application Number	09/937,508
Filing Date	05/22/2002
First Named Inventor	Bruno BERGE
Group Art Unit	2873
Examiner Name	Darryl J. Collins

Attorney Docket Number 042098-0103



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
E1	4,030,813			Kohashi et al.	06-1977	
E2	5,687,401			Kawamura et al.	11-1997	
E3	5,745,255			Yamaguchi	04-1998	
E4	6,449,081			Onuki et al.	09-2002	
E5	6,702,483			Tsuboi et al.	03-2004	

## U.S. PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Application Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Filing Date of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Serial Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
E6	10/819,888			Berge et al.	04-2004	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
E7	JP	7-5497				01-1995		
E8	JP	7-128635				05-1995		
E9	JP	9-15681				01-1997		
E10	JP	9-236740				09-1997		
E11	JP	3-87816				09-2000		
E12	WO	97/43731				11-1997		
E13	WO	99/18456				04-1999		

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.